

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-02 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03

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FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4562

INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMCONSUL TRIESTE

AMCONSUL ZAGREB

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IT, YO

SUBJECT: YUGOSLAV PROTEST OF SLOVENE SCHOOL BOMBING IN TRIESTE

REF: TRIESTE 0031 AND 0032

1. FONOFF CONFIRMS TODAY'S PRESS ACCOUNTS IN CONSERVATIVE IL TEMPO AND COMMUNIST L'UNITA OF STRONG YUGOSLAV NOTE DELIVERED APRIL 29 IN BELGRADE PROTESTING THE BOMBING OF SLOVENE SCHOOL IN TRIESTE APRIL 27 (REFTELS). NOTE CHARACTERIZES BOMBING ACT AS CRIMINAL ATTACK WHICH THREATENS THE PHYSICAL SECURITY AND ELEMENTARY RIGHTS OF THE SLOVENE MINORITY. ITALIAN GOVERNMENT IS REQUESTED TO TAKE THE MOST SEVERE MEASURES AND TO INFORM GOY OF RESULTS OF INVESTIGATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 2 OF SPECIAL STATUTE ANNEX TO LONDON MEMORANDUM.

2. PRESS ALSO REPORTS THAT ITALIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUED STATEMENT APRIL 29 SHARPLY CONDEMNING SCHOOL BOMBING AS EFFORT TO INTRODUCE DIVISIONS AMONG ITALIAN PEOPLE BASED ON LINGUISTIC AND CULTURAL DIVISIONS. STATEMENT GOES ON TO SAY THAT SUCH ACTS ARE NOT ONLY ILLEGAL BUT SERVE TO CREATE OBSTACLES TO FRIENDLY RELATIONS WITH YUGOSLAVIA WHICH HAVE ALWAYS BEEN PROMOTED BY ITALIAN

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GOVERNMENT. GOI, IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITALIAN LAW, WILL BRING FULL

MEASURES TO BEAR TO PROSECUTE THIS CRIMINAL ACT. ALTHOUGH FARNESIAN DECLARATION WAS APPARENTLY ISSUED AFTER RECEIPT OF YUGOSLAV NOTE, FONOFF SOURCE SAID THAT IT WAS CONCEIVED AND IN PREPARATION THE DAY BEFORE.

3. EDITORIAL COMMENT IN ROME DAILY IL TEMPO FULLY SUPPORTS GOI STATEMENT AND YUGOSLAV PROTEST. HOWEVER, NEWSPAPER ALSO TAKES OCCASION TO TIE THIS EPISODE TO ZONE B ISSUE NOTING THAT YUGOSLAV CITATION OF LONDON MEMORANDUM IN DEFENSE OF TRIESTE SLOVENE MINORITY IS POSITIVE DEVELOPMENT SINCE IT SHOWS THAT BELGRADE CONTINUES TO RECOGNIZE FULL VALIDITY OF THIS DOCUMENT. THUS THE YUGOSLAVS SHOULD ALSO RECOGNIZE THE RIGHT OF ITALY TO SUPPORT THE APPLICATION OF THE MEMORANDUM IN ALL ITS PARTS INCLUDING THOSE ESTABLISHING LINES OF DEMARCATION BETWEEN ZONES A AND B. VOLPE

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